3.1.3 Decrease in diesel fuel consumption for generators through use of renewable energy sources (2008/09: 940,000 litres; 2009/10: 977,544 litres; 2010/11: 784,000 litres)	912,793 litres The Mission's plan to connect the main headquarters to the national power grid, resulting in lower consumption of diesel fuel for generators, was not implemented due to financial constraints. Funds were redeployed to cover higher civilian personnel and air transportation costs and the project has been deferred to the budget year 2011/12

Planned outputs	*Completed (number or yes/no)*	*Remarks*
Service improvements		
MINURSO facilities, including communications antenna towers, are monitored regularly for compliance with the guidelines for United Nations field missions of the Department of Safety and Security, as well as fire safety and minimum operating security standards, and corrective action is taken as required to maximize fire safety and security measures and awareness for all Mission personnel	Yes	All communications antenna towers were regularly inspected and monitored The Fire Marshal conducted fire surveys and provided evacuation plans, training and new extinguishers to all MINURSO sites and premises The Security Section conducted surveys for Minimum Operating Security Standards for all installations
Military, police and civilian personnel		
Emplacement, rotation and repatriation of an average strength of 27 military contingent personnel, 203 military observers and 6 United Nations police officers	27	Military contingent personnel (average strength)
	196	Military observers (average strength)
	4	United Nations police (average strength)
		A lower number of United Nations police were deployed owing to the suspension of the confidence-building measures programme and a lack of United Nations police officers available from police-contributing countries
12 monthly verification, monitoring and inspection reports of contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment in respect of 20 military contingent personnel, and quarterly verification reports on periodic and operational readiness	Yes	The level-I Hospital provided monthly reports on equipment and supply holdings and monthly activities, and the Mission carried out monthly or quarterly spot checks to ensure operational readiness The Mission conducted quarterly inspections of major equipment and self-sustainment for the level-I Hospital and sent 8 verification reports to United Nations Headquarters for claims processing
Administration of an average of 295 civilian staff, comprising 109 international staff, 166 national staff, including 1 general temporary assistance position, and 20 United Nations Volunteers	99	International staff (average strength)
	162	National staff (average strength)
	19	United Nations Volunteers (average strength)
	2	Temporary position (average strength)

Implementation of a conduct and discipline programme for all military, police and civilian personnel, including training, prevention, monitoring and recommendations on remedial action where misconduct has occurred	Yes	Conducted presentations and refresher training on conduct and discipline matters, in particular on procedures to handle misconduct, to 234 civilian and 187 military personnel For military personnel, also conducted presentations on military regulations and procedures and distributed pamphlets 22 allegations of misconduct were reported to the Mission with 17 cases investigated and closed
Storage and supply of rations and bottled water for an average strength of 27 military contingent personnel, 203 military observers and 6 United Nations police officers and an average of 109 international staff and 20 United Nations Volunteers in 11 locations	Yes	248,428 kilograms of food rations and 481,176 litres of bottled water supplied to an average strength of 155 military observers, 6 military contingent members, 4 United Nations police, 94 support staff and 10 United Nations Volunteers in 9 locations 14 days of reserve food rations 14 days of reserve bottle water in the Mission headquarters and all team sites 21 and 7 days of combat rations packs in the Mission headquarters and team sites, respectively (total 5,434 packs)
Facilities and infrastructure		
Maintenance and repair of 9 military observer sites and 4 United Nations premises and military contingent accommodation premises in 11 locations	Yes	Maintained and repaired 9 military observer sites and 4 United Nations premises in 11 locations (9 team sites, the Tindouf Liaison Office, and premises in Laayoune)
Operation and maintenance of 36 generators at 11 locations	63	Generators operated and maintained in 11 locations The actual number is higher, as the planned estimate did not account for all generators
Operation and maintenance of 10 water purification plants at 5 team sites (Mahbas, Bir Lahlou, Tifariti, Mijek, Mehaires) and the Mission headquarters	10	Water purification plants were operated and maintained in the Mission headquarters and 4 team sites (Smara, Mahbas, Tifariti and Bir Lahlou) Water purification plants in Mijek and Mehaires were not installed due to the expiration of the maintenance contract on the east side of the berm
Replacement of soft-wall accommodation structures with already acquired new hard-wall containerized accommodation in 3 team sites (Mijek, Mehaires, Agwanit) and the installation of new kitchens in 3 team sites (Mahbas, Oum Dreyga, Smara)	No	The replacement of soft-wall accommodation was in progress in 1 of 3 remaining team sites east of the berm but was not finished due to the expiration of the maintenance contract. The purchase of kitchens for 3 team sites was cancelled in order to acquire them from the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT)

Installation of chain-link fences around all communication antennas at 9 team sites and 1 at Laayoune, as well as concertina wire on the perimeter walls at all 5 team sites east of the berm and the southern wall of the Communications and Training Centre compound that borders a school	No	The installation of chain-link fences was completed at the Communications and Training Centre in Laayoune and at 4 team sites on the west side of the berm. The installation of chain-link fences on the east side of the berm did not commence due to the expiration of the maintenance contract
		Concertina wire was installed on the southern wall of the Communications and Training Centre in Laayoune but not at 5 team sites east of the berm due to the expiration of the maintenance contract
Construction of a new workshop for surface transport heavy equipment/machinery at the logistics base		The project did not commence as the procurement process did not yield the expected results. The lowest bid was higher than the budgeted amount. In addition, the Mission decided to defer the project until the budget year 2011/12 to make funds available for civilian personnel and air transportation costs
Operation and maintenance of 12 airfields (4 runways and 8 helipads)	8	Helipads operated and maintained during the year
	3	Runways operated and maintained during the year. The runway in Awsard underwent major reconstruction and was reopened during the last three months of the year
Storage and supply of 784,000 litres of diesel fuel for generators	912,793	Litres of diesel fuel stored and supplied for generators
		The higher output stemmed from the non-implementation of the project to introduce electrical power through the local grid to the Mission headquarters. As the project was deferred until the budget year 2011/12 to make funds available for civilian personnel and air transportation costs, the consumption of fuel was higher than envisioned
Installation of 2 wind-propelled power turbines at the David Tower communication antennas and the MINURSO logistics base and solar panels at the 3 fuel team sites (Oum Dreyga, Mahbas, Awsard), thereby reducing reliance on generator fuel and electricity	No	Wind-propelled power turbines were not purchased because of the complex nature of the project and to make funds available for civilian personnel and air transportation costs. The project has been cancelled
	6	Solar panels for security lights were installed at the following locations: 2 at the helipad at the Tifariti team site and 4 at the MINURSO logistics base (2 in the fuel farm, 1 each in the generator location and access control gate)
		Installation of solar panels at the Oum Dreyga, Mahbas and Awsard team sites has been deferred until the budget year 2011/12 to make funds available for civilian personnel and air transportation costs
Establishment of gymnasium facilities at all team sites and Mission headquarters	Yes	Gymnasium facilities were established at all team sites and Mission headquarters

Ground transportation		
Operation and maintenance of 276 United Nations-owned vehicles, including 27 items of support equipment (ground support, material handling and engineering equipment), 9 trailers and 1 vehicle attachment, through 5 workshops in Laayoune, Awsard, Smara, Oum Dreyga and Tindouf	381	United Nations-owned vehicles were operated and maintained, including 34 items of support equipment, 28 trailers and 15 vehicle attachments The actual number is higher, as the planned estimate did not account for all vehicles and support equipment
Operation of a daily shuttle service 7 days a week for an average of 70 United Nations personnel per day from their accommodation to place of work in Laayoune	Yes	A daily shuttle service was provided 7 days a week for an average of 70 United Nations personnel from their accommodation to place of work in Laayoune
Storage and supply of 590,400 litres of diesel fuel for vehicles	549,013	Diesel fuel consumption for vehicles Lower output was due to the restriction of movement during the civil unrest in Laayoune in November 2010 and implementation of strict internal controls for vehicle usage that resulted in fewer trips to the fuel farm at the MINURSO logistics base
Air transportation		
Operation and maintenance of 3 fixed-wing and 3 rotary-wing aircraft	Yes	3 fixed-wing aircraft 3 rotary-wing aircraft 3,887 hours flown, 16,349 passengers transported and 3,432 flights flown. That includes 48 flights and 2,606 passengers in support of UNHCR (confidence-building measures programme) on a cost-reimbursable basis
Storage and supply of 3.8 million litres of aviation fuel	3,295,811	Litres of fuel consumed Less fuel was consumed because one rotary-wing aircraft was removed from the fleet in May 2011
Communications		
Operation and maintenance of a network consisting of 1 Earth station hub, 11 VSAT systems, 1 trailer mount VSAT system, 4 telephone exchanges, 5 microwave links and 10 narrow band and digital radio systems to provide voice, fax, video and data communications	Yes	1 Earth station hub, 10 VSAT systems, 1 trailer-mounted VSAT system, 4 telephone exchanges, 2 microwave links, and 10 narrow band and digital radio systems were operated and maintained
Operation and maintenance of 391 VHF hand-held radios, 27 VHF repeaters and 254 HF base and mobile radios	Yes	391 VHF radios, 27 VHF repeaters and 254 HF radios were operated and maintained

Medical

Operation and maintenance of 1 level-I medical facility, including 1 dental clinic, 1 laboratory and 1 X-ray facility, as well as deployment of 3 forward medical teams for emergency treatment, casualty and medical evacuations and first aid for all Mission personnel, staff of other United Nations agencies and the local civilian population in emergency cases	Yes	1 level-I medical facility operated and maintained, which included dental clinic, laboratory and X-ray facility 3 forward medical teams were deployed with 1 in the Smara team site in the north sector, 1 in the Awsard team site in the south sector, and 1 in Laayoune that rotated every 2 weeks with emergency first aid stations In addition, 2,152 visits/calls to the level-I medical facility, 347 medical examinations in the clinic, 90 medical examinations by the forward medical teams, 1,332 laboratory tests, 603 dental clinic cases, 2 casualty evacuations, 9 medical evacuations, and 47 medical appointments referred to level-II or level-III hospitals
Maintenance of Mission-wide land and air evacuation arrangements for all United Nations locations	Yes	2 casualty evacuations 9 medical evacuations
Operation and maintenance of HIV voluntary confidential counselling and testing facilities for all Mission personnel	Yes	Three trained staff members in the level-I Hospital provided 155 Mission personnel with HIV voluntary confidential counselling and testing Post-exposure prophylaxis kits and condoms were made available as part of the Mission's effort to combat HIV
HIV sensitization programme, including peer education, for all Mission personnel	Yes	All incoming Mission personnel provided with the HIV sensitization programme In addition, the awareness programmes included 4 newsletters and information broadcast through Lotus Notes and the bulletin board Activities during World AIDS Day included distribution of pamphlets, posters and other materials

Security

Provision of security services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at all sites, premises and facilities of the Mission	Yes	Safety and security services for the MINURSO headquarters, the MINURSO logistics base, the Communication and Training Centre, the UNHCR confidence-building measures programme office in Laayoune, the Movement Control Office at the Laayoune Airport (security provided by local authorities), and the MINURSO liaison office in Tindouf Security for 9 team sites and a military liaison office in Dakhla was provided by the local authorities

24-hour close protection provided to senior Mission staff and visiting high-level officials	No	Close protection details to senior Mission staff and visiting high-level officials were provided by the local authorities
Mission-wide site security assessment, including residential surveys for 5 locations used by United Nations staff	Yes	Security risk assessments, which included minimum operating security standards and minimum operating residential security standard surveys, were done for MINURSO offices, team sites and private residences (Laayoune and Tindouf) in 5 locations
Conduct of a total of 3 emergency response preparedness and contingency plans for all Mission staff	Yes	3 emergency response preparedness and contingency plans prepared for all Mission staff (1 for Laayoune, 1 generic for all team sites and 1 for Tindouf)
Induction security training, primary fire safety training and evacuation drills conducted for all new Mission staff	Yes	All incoming Mission personnel provided with security induction training 79 Mission personnel provided with fire safety and fire evacuation training 1 practical small-scale fire evacuation exercise conducted by the Operations Centre

III. Resource performance

A. Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011.)

Category	Apportionment (1)	Expenditure (2)	Variance Amount (3)=(1)-(2)	Variance Percentage (4)=(3)÷(1)
Military and police personnel				
Military observers	5 855.5	5 601.6	253.9	4.3
Military contingents	796.6	985.6	(189.0)	(23.7)
United Nations police	164.6	94.3	70.3	42.7
Formed police units	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**6 816.7**	**6 681.5**	**135.2**	**2.0**
Civilian personnel				
International staff	15 649.4	16 557.6	(908.2)	(5.8)
National staff	3 495.2	4 520.4	(1 025.2)	(29.3)
United Nations Volunteers	739.9	761.9	(22.0)	(3.0)
General temporary assistance	44.5	48.9	(4.4)	(9.9)
Subtotal	**19 929.0**	**21 888.8**	**(1 959.8)**	**(9.8)**
Operational costs				
Government-provided personnel	39.4	39.4	(0.0)	(0.1)
Consultants	15.0	10.9	4.1	27.6
Official travel	690.0	695.3	(5.3)	(0.8)
Facilities and infrastructure	3 918.6	2 449.4	1 469.2	37.5
Ground transportation	3 897.8	2 553.8	1 344.0	34.5
Air transportation	16 487.6	17 630.3	(1 142.7)	(6.9)
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—
Communications	1 374.4	941.6	432.8	31.5
Information technology	1 055.9	995.1	60.8	5.8
Medical	134.5	110.3	24.2	18.0
Special equipment	88.7	33.8	54.9	61.9
Other supplies, services and equipment	2 682.9	3 071.9	(389.0)	(14.5)
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**30 384.8**	**28 531.8**	**1 853.0**	**6.1**
Gross requirements	**57 130.5**	**57 102.1**	**28.4**	**0.0**
Staff assessment income	2 408.1	2 684.7	(276.6)	(11.5)
Net requirements	**54 722.4**	**54 417.4**	**305.0**	**0.6**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)[a]	2 908.0	2 551.7	356.3	12.3
Total requirements	**60 038.5**	**59 653.8**	**384.7**	**0.6**

[a] Includes $2,191,333 from the Government of Morocco, $324,268 from the Government of Algeria and $36,119 from the Frente Polisario.

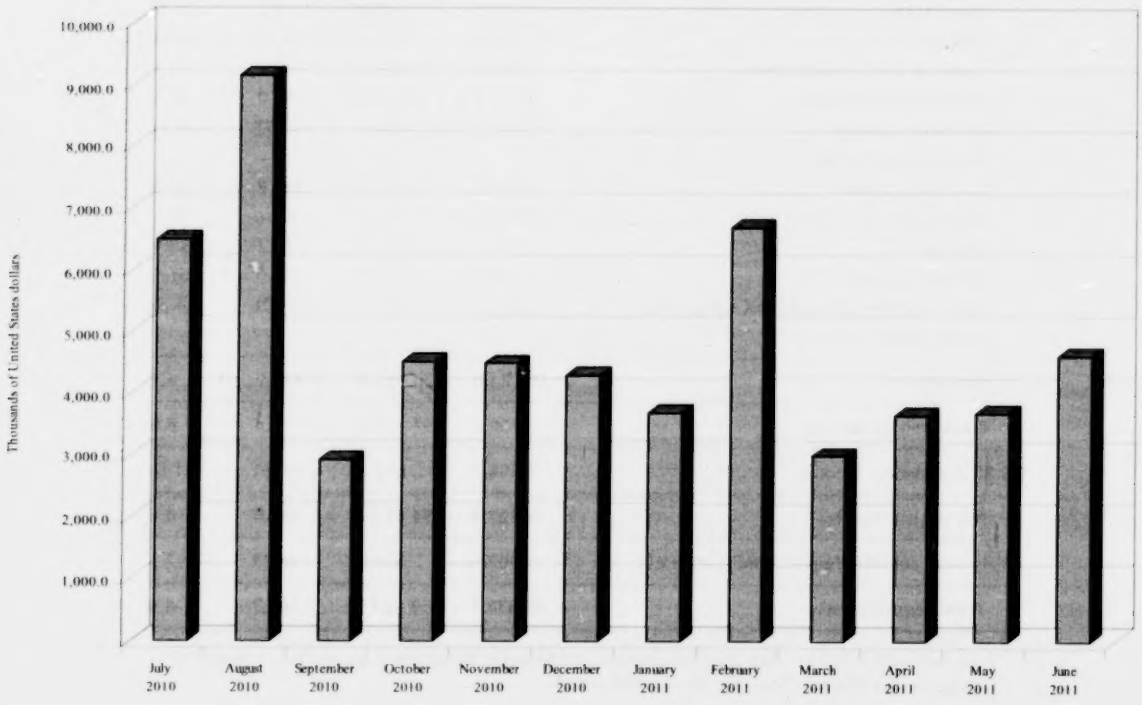
B. Summary information on redeployments across groups

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Group	*Appropriation*		
	Original distribution	*Redeployment*	*Revised distribution*
I. Military and police personnel	6 816.7	(134.0)	6 682.7
II. Civilian personnel	19 929.0	1 962.0	21 891.0
III. Operational costs	30 384.8	(1 828.0)	28 556.8
Total	**57 130.5**	—	**57 130.5**
Percentage of redeployment to total appropriation			**3.4**

28. Funds were redeployed during the reporting period in order to meet the additional requirements for civilian personnel, mainly owing to the actual lower average vacancy rates for international and national staff, higher common staff costs for international staff, and higher salaries and increased costs for national staff resulting from the salary increase and the post classification exercise. Resource requirements under operational costs were also reprioritized during the year that included delaying acquisitions until the budget year 2011/12 or receiving equipment from MINURCAT and UNMIN to make funds available for civilian personnel.

C. Monthly expenditure pattern



29. The higher expenditures in July and August 2010 were mainly attributable to the obligation of funds for the operation and rental of fixed and rotary-wing aircraft and aviation fuel. The expenditures in February 2011 mainly reflected the establishment of obligations and disbursements for air operations.

D. Other income and adjustments

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Interest income	107.5
Other/miscellaneous income	92.9
Prior-period adjustments	(4.1)
Cancellation of prior-period obligations	913.4
Total	**1 109.7**

E. Expenditure for contingent-owned equipment: major equipment and self-sustainment

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Expenditure*
Major equipment	
Military contingents	85.1
Formed police units	—
Subtotal	**85.1**
Self-sustainment	
Facilities and infrastructure	1.6
Communications	—
Medical	59.1
Special equipment	—
Subtotal	**60.7**
Total	**145.8**

Mission factors	*Percentage*	*Effective date*	*Last review date*
A. Applicable to Mission area			
Extreme environmental condition factor	0.0	1 November 2010	16 April 2007
Intensified operational condition factor	0.8	1 November 2010	16 April 2007
Hostile action/forced abandonment factor	0.8	1 November 2010	16 April 2007
B. Applicable to home country			
Incremental transportation factor (Malaysia)	4.25	1 May 2006	
Incremental transportation factor (Bangladesh)	4.00	1 November 2010	

F. Value of non-budgeted contributions

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Actual value*
Status-of-mission agreement[a]	1 564.5
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	—
Total	**1 564.5**

[a] Accommodation provided by the Governments of Algeria ($74,500) and Morocco ($1,490,000).

IV. Analysis of variances[1]

	Variance	
Military observers	$253.9	4.3%

30. The reduced requirement is mainly attributable to an average vacancy rate of 3.4 per cent compared to 2 per cent included in the budget. In addition, the balance is the result of a lower average ticket cost per person than estimated, the absence of expenditures for death and disability compensation during the reporting period, and the provision of rations to an average strength of 155 military observers compared to 174 included in the budget.

	Variance	
Military contingents	($189.0)	(23.7%)

31. The additional requirements stemmed mainly from the unanticipated expenditures related to the freight of contingent-owned equipment due to the deployment in November 2010 of the level-I Hospital from Bangladesh. This is partially offset by the unutilized balance for travel on rotation as a result of the non-rotation of contingent members from Bangladesh after six months in the Mission area, and lower expenditures for contingent-owned equipment, as some items were not deployed as part of the level-I Hospital.

	Variance	
United Nations police	$70.3	42.7%

32. The reduced requirement is mainly attributable to the actual average vacancy rate of 33.3 per cent compared to the full deployment of United Nations police officers reflected in the budget and the non-payment for death and disability claims because no claims were submitted during the reporting period.

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent or $100,000.

	Variance	
International staff	($908.2)	(5.8%)

33. The additional requirements are mainly attributable to a lower average vacancy rate of 8.3 per cent compared to 10 per cent reflected in the budget. Expenditures for common staff costs were higher than budgeted due to entitlements under General Assembly resolution 63/250 of 24 December 2008 on human resources management that were not fully reflected in the proposed budget for 2010/11 owing to a lack of historical data. The classification of Field Service personnel posts to higher grades also contributed to the increase. In addition, the Mission paid mission subsistence allowance, for which no provision was made in the budget, to 7 Field Service Officers who were entitled to the allowance in accordance with United Nations staff rule 13.7 (c).

	Variance	
National staff	($1 025.2)	(29.3%)

34. The additional requirements are mainly due to a lower actual average vacancy rate of 1.2 per cent compared to 7 per cent reflected in the budget and a revised national staff salary scale that took effect on 1 October 2010. In addition, national staff grade levels were inceased as a result of a classification exercise, resulting in higher salary and related costs.

	Variance	
General temporary assistance	($4.4)	(9.9%)

35. The additional requirements are attributable mainly to the salary increase as of 1 October 2010 as well as the payment of salary at higher classified grades.

	Variance	
Consultants	$4.1	27.6%

36. The reduced requirement is attributable to the lower actual consultancy fee for training on transportation of dangerous goods.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	$1 469.2	37.5%

37. The variance is attributable mainly to the reprioritization of requirements due to an increase in the rental costs for fixed and rotary-wing aircraft resulting in the postponement of acquisitions of equipment and supplies, alterations and renovations, as well as due to the transfer of prefabricated facilities from MINURCAT. The unutilized balance was partly offset by higher costs for maintenance services, as service contractors stayed longer at the team sites to meet the higher demand for maintenance.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	$1 344.0	34.5%

38. The reduced requirements are mainly attributable to the cancelled acquisitions for one wheeled grader, one backhoe, one forklift and two cargo trailers, as these

assets were transferred from MINURCAT. Acquisitions of vehicle workshop equipment were cancelled to make funds available to cover higher air transportation and civilian personnel costs. In addition, fewer vehicle accidents occurred, which resulted in lower vehicle repair and maintenance costs. The unutilized balance was partly offset by the increased utilization of spare parts.

	Variance	
Air transportation	($1 142.7)	(6.9%)

39. The additional requirements are mainly attributable to actual contracted costs for the rental and operation of fixed and rotary-wing aircraft being higher than the provision in the approved budget. In addition, the Mission incurred higher aviation fuel costs as the price of fuel fluctuated between November 2010 and May 2011 from $0.801 to $1.082 per litre, as compared to $0.632 per litre included in the budget. The additional requirements were partly offset by lower costs for air navigation charges due to fewer flights to Oum Dreyga and Awsard team sites and overall costs associated with the contract for one helicopter which was repatriated in May 2011.

	Variance	
Communications	$432.8	31.5%

40. The reduced requirement is mainly attributable to the reprioritization of requirements due to increased civilian personnel and air transportation costs as well as the transfer of communications equipment from MINURCAT and UNMIN, resulting in reduced acquisition of equipment. In addition, commercial communications costs were less than budgeted because the contract for satellite transponder usage was renewed with more favourable pricing.

	Variance	
Information technology	$60.8	5.8%

41. The reduced requirement stemmed from the reprioritization of requirements to meet the additional funding needed for civilian personnel and air transportation costs as well as lower expenditures incurred for licensing fees.

	Variance	
Medical	$24.2	18.0%

42. The variance is mainly attributable to lower requirements for medical services, as fewer military observers were referred to level-II and III hospitals than budgeted. In addition, requisitions for medical supplies were reduced due to reprioritization of budgeted resources.

	Variance	
Special equipment	$54.9	61.9%

43. The unutilized balance is attributed to the reprioritization of requirements, as acquisitions of observation equipment were reduced to make funding available for rental and operation of aircraft.

	Variance	
Other supplies, services and equipment	($389.0)	(14.5%)

44. The additional requirements are mainly attributable to the cost of shipping various materials and equipment from MINURCAT, loss on exchange due to fluctuations of the United States dollar versus the euro and Moroccan dirham, and higher than expected cost of gym equipment purchased as welfare items for all team sites. The additional costs were partly offset by the reprioritization of requirements for the acquisition of equipment, uniforms, flags, decals and personal protection gear to make funding available for civilian personnel costs and rental and operation of aircraft.

V. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

45. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of MINURSO are:**

(a) **To decide on the treatment of the unencumbered balance of $28,400 with respect to the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011;**

(b) **To decide on the treatment of other income for the period ended 30 June 2011 amounting to $1,109,700 from interest income ($107,500), other/miscellaneous income ($92,900) and cancellation of prior-period obligations ($913,400), offset by prior-period adjustments ($4,100).**

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Report of the Security Council

Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters

Identical letters dated 23 November 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I have the pleasure to write to you in my capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement concerning the open debate of the Security Council, to be held on 30 November 2011, on the implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507) dated 26 July 2010.

In order to have a rich debate on the subject matter on 30 November, which could lead to the achievement of our mutual goal of further improving the working methods of the Security Council, I am attaching herewith, for your consideration and the consideration of the members of the General Assembly and the Security Council, the position of the Non-Aligned Movement concerning the working methods of the Security Council as stipulated in the relevant paragraphs of the final document (A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex I), adopted by the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Bali, Indonesia, in May 2011, with a view to assisting the Security Council in its efforts to achieve the desired progress in reforming the working methods of the Council (see annex).

In this regard, I stress the importance that the Non-Aligned Movement attaches to having its positions taken into consideration in any possible outcome of the open debate of the Security Council.

I should highly appreciate if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Maged A. **Abdelaziz**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-60627 (E) 281111

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Annex to the identical letters dated 23 November 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Position of the Non-Aligned Movement concerning the working methods of the Security Council as stipulated in the relevant paragraphs of the final document (A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex I), adopted by the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Bali, Indonesia, in May 2011

The Ministers underscored the need for the States Members of the United Nations to fully respect the functions and powers of each principal organ of the United Nations, in particular the General Assembly, and to maintain the balance among those organs within their respective Charter-based functions and powers. They stressed that the Security Council must fully observe all provisions of the Charter as well as all General Assembly resolutions, which clarify its relationship with the latter organ and other principal organs. In this context, they affirmed that Article 24 of the Charter does not necessarily provide the Security Council with the competence to address issues which fall within the functions and powers of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, including in the areas of norm-setting, legislation, administrative and budgetary matters and establishing definitions, bearing in mind that the Assembly is primarily tasked with the progressive development of international law and its codification.[1] The Ministers expressed their grave concern over the increasing and continuing encroachment by the Council on issues which clearly fall within the functions and powers of other principal organs of the United Nations and their subsidiary bodies. They further stressed that close cooperation and coordination among all principal organs is highly indispensable in order to enable the United Nations to remain relevant and capable of meeting the existing, new and emerging threats and challenges (A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex I, para. 71).

The Ministers stressed that while Member States have conferred on the Security Council the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security pursuant to Article 24 (1) of the Charter and in carrying out its duties under this responsibility, the Council acts on their behalf. In this context, they further stressed that the Council should report and be accountable to the General Assembly in accordance with Article 24 (3) of the Charter (ibid., para. 72).

The Ministers reiterated their concern over the continuing encroachment by the Security Council on the functions and powers of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council through addressing issues which traditionally fall within the competence of the latter organs, and the attempts to enter areas of norm-setting, administrative and budgetary matters and establishing definitions which fall within the purview of the Assembly (ibid., para. 73).

[1] In accordance with Article 13 (1) of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Ministers:

Urged all States to uphold the primacy of and full respect for the provisions of the Charter pertaining to the functions and powers of the General Assembly, called on the Presidents of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council to conduct regular discussions and coordination among themselves regarding the agenda and programme of work of the respective principal organs that they represent in order to establish increased coherence and complementarity among these organs in a mutually reinforcing manner, respectful of each others' mandates, and with a view to generating a mutual understanding among them, with whom the members of the respective organs that they represent have vested in good faith their trust and confidence (ibid., para. 74.1);

Welcomed as a step forward the informal meetings between the Presidents of the Council for the month of July and States Members of the United Nations on the preparation of the annual report of the Security Council, including those convened by Viet Nam in 2008, Uganda in 2009 and Nigeria in 2010, and called for more regular interactions between future Presidents of the Council for the month of July and the wider membership of the United Nations, which could help enhance the quality of such reports (ibid., para. 74.2);

Called on the Security Council to submit a more explanatory, comprehensive and analytical annual report to the General Assembly, assessing the work of the Council, including such cases in which the Council has failed to act, and the views expressed by its members during the consideration of the agenda items under its consideration. They further called on the Security Council to elaborate the circumstances under which it adopts different outcomes whether resolutions, presidential statements, press statements or elements to the press (ibid., para. 74.3);

Called on the Security Council, pursuant to Articles 15 (1) and 24 (3) of the Charter, to submit special reports for the consideration of the General Assembly (ibid., para. 74.4);

Called on the Security Council to ensure that its monthly assessments are comprehensive and analytical, and issued in a timely fashion. The General Assembly may consider proposing parameters for the elaboration of such assessments (ibid., para. 74.5);

Called on the Security Council to fully take into account the recommendations of the General Assembly on matters relating to international peace and security, consistent with Article 11 (2) of the Charter (ibid., para. 74.6);

Opposed and called for a stop to attempts to shift issues under the agenda of the General Assembly or the Economic and Social Council to the Security Council, and the encroachment by the latter on the functions and powers of the Assembly (ibid., para. 74.7).

In recent years, the Security Council has been too quick to threaten or authorize enforcement action in some cases while being silent and inactive in others. Furthermore, the Council has been increasingly resorting to Chapter VII of the Charter as an umbrella for addressing issues that do not necessarily pose an immediate threat to international peace and security. A careful review of these trends indicates that the Council could have opted for alternative provisions to respond more appropriately to particular cases. Instead of excessive and quick use of

Chapter VII, efforts should be made to fully utilize the provisions of Chapters VI and VIII for the pacific settlement of disputes. Chapter VII should be invoked, as intended, as a measure of last resort. Unfortunately, provisions of Articles 41 and 42 in some cases have been too quickly resorted to while the other options had not been fully exhausted (ibid., para. 82.4).

The Security Council-imposed sanctions remain an issue of serious concern to the countries members of the Non-Aligned Movement. In accordance with the Charter, the imposition of sanctions should be considered only after all means of peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter have been exhausted and a thorough consideration undertaken of the short-term and long-term effects of such sanctions. Sanctions are a blunt instrument, the use of which raises fundamental ethical questions of whether sufferings inflicted on vulnerable groups in the target country are legitimate means of exerting pressure. The objectives of sanctions are not to punish or otherwise exact retribution on the populace. In this regard, the objectives of sanctions regimes should be clearly defined, and the imposition of sanctions should be for a specified time frame and should be based on tenable legal grounds, and they should be lifted as soon as the objectives are achieved. The conditions demanded of the State or party on which sanctions are imposed should be clearly defined and subject to periodic review. Sanctions should be imposed only when there exists a threat to international peace and security or an act of aggression, in accordance with the Charter, and when such a threat is not applicable "preventively" in instances of mere violation of international law, norms or standards. Targeted sanctions may be a better alternative so long as the population of targeted State concerned is not victimized, whether directly or indirectly (ibid., para. 82.5).

Transparency, openness and consistency are key elements that the Security Council should observe in all its activities, approaches and procedures. Regrettably, the Council has neglected these important factors on numerous occasions. Such instances include unscheduled open debates with selective notification, reluctance in convening open debates on some issues of high significance, repeatedly restricting participation in some of the open debates and discriminating between members and non-members of the Council, particularly with regard to sequencing and time limits of statements during the open debates, failure to submit special reports to the General Assembly as required under Article 24 of the Charter, submission of annual reports still lacking sufficient information and analytical content, and lack of minimal parameters for the elaboration of the monthly assessment by the Security Council Presidencies. The Council must comply with the provisions of Article 31 of the Charter, which allow any non-Council member to participate in discussions on matters affecting it. Rule 48 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council should be thoroughly observed. Closed meetings and informal consultations should be kept to a minimum and as the exception they were meant to be (ibid., para. 82.6).

The rules of procedure of the Security Council, which have remained provisional for more than 60 years, should be formalized in order to improve its transparency and accountability (ibid., para. 82.9).

The Ministers:

Called on the Security Council to increase the number of public meetings, in accordance with Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter, and that these meetings should provide real opportunities to take into account the views and contributions of the

wider membership of the United Nations, particularly non-Council members whose affairs are under the discussion of the Council (ibid., para. 83.1);

Called on the Security Council to allow briefings by the Special Envoys or Representatives of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Secretariat to take place in public meetings, unless in exceptional circumstances (ibid., para. 83.2);

Called on the Security Council to further enhance its relationship with the United Nations Secretariat and troop-contributing countries, including through a sustained, regular and timely interaction. Meetings with troop-contributing countries should be held not only in the drawing up of mandates, but also in their implementation, when considering a change in, or renewal of, or completion of a mission mandate, or when there is a rapid deterioration of the situation on the ground. In this context, the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations should involve troop-contributing countries more frequently and intensively in its deliberations, especially in the very early stages of mission planning (ibid., para. 83.3);

Called upon the Security Council to uphold the primacy of and respect for the Charter in connection with its functions and powers and stressed once again that the decision by the Council to initiate formal or informal discussions on the situation in any State Member of the United Nations or any issue that does not constitute a threat to international peace and security is contrary to Article 24 of the Charter (ibid., para. 83.4);

Called on the Security Council to establish its subsidiary organs in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Charter, and stressed that these organs should function in a manner that would provide adequate and timely information on their activities to the general United Nations membership (ibid., para. 83.5);

Rejected any attempts to use the Security Council to pursue national political agendas and stressed the necessity of non-selectivity and impartiality in the work of the Council, and the need for the Council to keep strictly within the powers and functions accorded to it by the Member States under the Charter (ibid., para. 83.6);

Called on the Security Council to avoid resorting to Chapter VII of the Charter as an umbrella for addressing issues that do not necessarily pose a threat to international peace and security, and to fully utilize the provisions of other relevant Chapters, where appropriate, including Chapters VI and VIII, before invoking Chapter VII, which should be a measure of last resort, if necessary (ibid., para. 83.7).